

puts them on a brighter path for the rest of their lives, and it makes it much easier for their parents to go into the workforce, knowing that their child has high-quality and affordable childcare options.

If we pass this bill, and I am confident we will, it is going to be the most pro-family and most pro-child bill Congress has ever passed. I believe this bill will do for children what Social Security did for seniors in a status that we have long lived in this country, where we accept a child poverty rate that is dramatically higher than the adult poverty rate. What does that say? What does that say about a society? This workforce and education bill, Build Back Better, will end our acceptance of that unacceptable status quo and move us to a position where we can cut child poverty and give our kids a much stronger start for a successful life.

The American Rescue Plan, as I mentioned a minute ago, passed the Senate by just one vote—just one vote. One vote had changed all of those benefits to my local governments and to families and to educational institutions and to hospitals and healthcare networks and to businesses. All of those would have not occurred. None of the counties whose leadership I spoke to yesterday would have received the moneys that I talked about for the transformative projects.

I hope we will pass this education and workforce bill by a wider margin than just one vote, but if it is just one vote—if it is just one vote—so be it. So be it.

When there was an effort in this Chamber in August of 2017 to take health insurance away from 30 million people—one of the most dramatic moments in my entire public service career—we saved 30 million people's healthcare by 1 vote—by 1 vote. When we acted on the American Rescue Plan in the middle of the pandemic, in March, to try to help our country climb out of the worst public health crisis in a century, we got it by one vote. I would like a wider margin, but if it is just one vote—if it is just one vote—we will still be doing really important work.

Americans deserve a Congress that will fund businesses and schools; that will train the workforce; that will build out transportation networks; that will support hospitals and health clinics; deploy vaccines; provide additional funding for law enforcement officers and first responders; create better broadband connections; provide tax relief to working families and lower childcare costs. Build Back Better is the next step to lifting us out of the pandemic and rebuilding the American economy.

I have to say I am 63 years old—I will be 64 in February—and this has been the hardest 20 months of my life, and I think most people in this country might say the same thing. Just think about the sheer number of the 750,000

people who have passed and the people who have been ill—my wife and I both had COVID, and we know a lot of people who died of COVID—and beyond, those being the folks who didn't have COVID but who had a grandchild born whom they couldn't go visit or a friend who died, and they couldn't go to the funeral, or who lost a job or had a business that they had sweated to build but had to shut its doors. It has been such a tough time.

But, as I looked out at the hundreds of county officials who were gathered in person yesterday in Norfolk and as I talked to them about these bills—and I saw them there in person—I detected an uplift. I am feeling a sense of uplift. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we see wages increasing. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we make a commitment, for the first time in a generation, to be builders and invest and grow our infrastructure. I am feeling a sense of uplift as we approach investing in workers and in our families the same way we are investing in infrastructure.

I have a feeling that, over the next couple of months, these important investments will braid together in a way that will make people feel a sense of uplift about the economy and as vaccines continue to be distributed and now as boosters are being distributed.

How wonderful it was to hear the Presiding Officer talking about his children being able to be vaccinated, his school-aged children. I think that is going to contribute to a sense of uplift, too.

I just want this body to be a generator of uplift. Sadly, a lot has come out of the Capitol in the last few years that hasn't exactly been an uplift for people. I believe we are standing on the threshold of a chapter where this body, the U.S. Senate, will be a great generator of uplift for the American people, and I believe passing the Build Back Better is a step that will be really important in making that happen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I want to address the Senate on an issue that is very close to my heart.

Now that we are well into the month of November and our Nation's observance of the National Family Caregivers Month, I would like to recognize the family caregivers across this Nation and the difficult and vitally important work that they do.

I have a brother and a sister. Both of our parents passed away in the middle—well, 2014 and 2015, but they both suffered from Alzheimer's at the same time. It was very, very difficult on all of us to figure out the best way to ease their pain and to satisfy—it was a very difficult time—how we, as a family, were going to be providing for their care.

This experience motivated me to join my colleague Senator MICHAEL BENNET of Colorado as a cosponsor of the bipar-

tisan Assisting Caregivers Today—or ACT—Caucus.

The ACT Caucus seeks to bring much-needed attention to all of the caregivers and the issues that their caregivers face from all backgrounds. It seeks to find bipartisan ways to lessen the emotional and financial toll for those individuals who are caring for family members. And this help is needed by so, so many.

Eighty-three percent of the help provided to older adults in the United States comes from family members, friends, or even unpaid caregivers. Nearly half of all caregivers who provide help to older adults do so—like we do—for someone living with Alzheimer's or with another type of dementia.

In my home State of West Virginia, we have about 85,000 family caregivers who are living with someone who has Alzheimer's and caring for them. As we know, those of us who have been down this road, there are no easy solutions here. Not only is it emotionally taxing on a family—there is no simple path—it also can be very, very expensive.

My West Virginia Alzheimer's advocates always share with me their incredible stories—they actually let me come to one of their support groups, which I needed at the time—and also the challenges that they have as caregivers. One of these challenges is navigating the current complex medical system needed to care for someone living with Alzheimer's or, more often than not, other chronic medical conditions.

This is one of the reasons I joined with my colleague Senator DEBBIE STABENOW of Michigan—we have done a couple of things together—in introducing the Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer's Act.

This bill would address the challenge by asking the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid for some innovation to be able to test dementia care management models. It enables individuals to more seamlessly and successfully navigate healthcare and social support systems and to obtain more timely access to care.

The model is designed to reach as many Medicare beneficiaries as possible, especially individuals from rural and medically underserved areas. It provides comprehensive care services, including caregiver education and support; ensures patients have access to providers with dementia care experience; and also to reimburse providers through payment based on performance.

This is something that could have helped my brother, sister, and I as we were navigating this difficult path, by helping us to coordinate the care that our parents not just received but what they deserved. It also could have helped them by ensuring that they were receiving the best care at all times.

We must recognize the importance that our family caregivers play not

only during National Family Caregivers Month, but every day, and embrace those commonsense solutions like this one.

So in honor of my parents, I would like to say that many of us across the country who are dealing with this have so much heartache and so much difficulty and so much difficult decisions that I am always trying to seek the best way to try to help those families who are going down that path.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, in honor of the parents—and so many others—of Senator CAPITO, I thank her for her empathetic, compassionate remarks. We all have had friends and family who have suffered, and her remarks are really appropriate.

So thank you for that.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote take place immediately after my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSOR TO S. 3076

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that Senator OSSOFF of Georgia be added as a cosponsor of S. 3076, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, not a unanimous consent request, but I note that joining me on the floor today is Ben Ashman, for whom we have given consent to be on the floor as a Senate fellow in our office for the year.

NOMINATION OF GRAHAM SCOTT STEELE

Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues for the upcoming vote to join me in supporting Graham Steele, the President's nominee for Assistant Secretary for Financial Institutions at the Department of Treasury.

Graham is my friend. Graham is a former staff member of the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee and was a stellar—was and is a stellar public servant.

I know from personal experience how ready Mr. Steele is for this job. Graham spent 7 years in my personal Senate office and on the Senate Banking and Housing Committee staff when I became ranking member.

He was a senior trusted aide. He worked with staff of so many of my colleagues from both parties. In a Senate that is, frankly, too divided and a Senate that is too rigid in its partisanship, five Republicans on the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee joined in supporting Graham Steele when we voted him out of committee a month or so ago, and that is because of his relationships, because of his honesty.

He has extensive financial services experience, a track record of bipartisanship, and a history to make our system work for everyone. He understands the far-reaching effects the financial system has on workers and their families.

Throughout his career, Graham has forged close relationships with civil rights groups; with consumer advocates; and with organizations, like the bipartisan Ohio Bankers League that wrote in support of his nomination.

He stood up for families, for communities, for Main Street businesses against Wall Street greed and corruption. He has worked across the aisle to get things done for the American people.

As minority chief counsel for the Banking and Housing Committee, and as my staff director of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection, he crafted legislation, he worked with other offices, he worked with community banks, and he fought to protect all Americans' finances.

He worked on a broad set of issues with two Republican chairs, Senator CRAPO of Idaho and Senator SHELBY of Alabama. He worked with their staffs, worked with people on both sides of the aisle.

He did vital work during and after the 2008 financial crisis, as we worked to stabilize our financial system.

In his work for our office, he traveled around Ohio in the years that followed. He talked to Ohioans who had lost their homes and saw their communities devastated by Wall Street's—and I underscore "Wall Street's"—great recession. Wall Street didn't experience much of the recession; Wall Street caused the recession. I make that clear.

He understands the importance of listening to workers. He understands how the financial industry affects their lives every day.

He has put results for Americans above partisanship. He worked with Senator Johanns, a Republican from Nebraska, who has since retired. He worked with Senator COLLINS, a Republican from Maine, on an important fix to insurance regulations. He worked with Senator MORAN of Kansas on innovative ways to encourage families to increase savings.

In his current role at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, Graham researches important issues at the intersection of markets and business and government, looking at ways to promote a more accountable economy.

At Treasury, Graham Steele would oversee an office that plays a pivotal role in coordinating the Department's efforts on financial institution policy, community and economic development, insurance, and cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protections.

He would lead an office that oversees the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, CDFI.

His qualifications and his experience are obvious. Graham and the staff of many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle can attest to his commitment to service and the ability to find common ground—something that will serve him well at Treasury working with Secretary Yellen and will serve this body and our government well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the nomination of Graham Steele. He will serve admirably, I am sure of that. I can think of no better person to serve in this role at this very consequential time in our Nation's history.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON STEELE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Steele nomination?

Mr. BROWN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 467 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Romney
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Rounds
Brown	Kelly	Sanders
Cantwell	King	Schatz
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Scott (SC)
Casey	Lujan	Sinema
Collins	Manchin	Smith
Coons	Menendez	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Tester
Crapo	Moran	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murphy	Warner
Durbin	Murray	Warnock
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	

NAYS—42

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Hoehn	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Shelby
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Cramer	Lummis	Toomey
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young

NOT VOTING—5

Hassan	Markey	Warren
Inhofe	Shaheen	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the